

Message Text

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41

ACTION IO-11

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 NEA-10 ISO-00 SCCT-01 L-03

JUSE-00 SY-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

/100 W

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R 201609Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7592

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY CARACAS

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L VIENNA 0441

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, UN, AU

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN RESOLVE AGAINST TERRORISM IS WEAK

REF: STATE 012247

1. ASSASSINATION OF TURKISH AMBASSADOR AND TERRORIST
ATTACK ON OPEC HEADQUARTERS IN RECENT WEEKS HAVE MOVED
BOTH AUSTRIAN PRESIDENT KIRSCHLAGER AND CHANCELLOR KREISKY
TO EXPRESS AUSTRIA'S SUPPORT FOR INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION
TO COMBAT TERRORISM. THESE EXPRESSIONS NOTWITHSTANDING,
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EMBASSY WOULD NOT EXPECT TO SEE GOA IN VANGUARD OF

EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE EFFECTIVE INTERNATIONAL ACTION OR TO PAY POSSIBLE COSTS IN TERMS EITHER OF AUSTRIAN INTERESTS OR OF CHANCELLOR KREISKY'S PERCEPTION OF HIS DEVELOPING ROLE AS SPOKESMAN FOR EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS, E.G. ON BEHALF OF SOCIALISTS INTERNATIONAL VIS-A-VIS ARAB STATES. INDEED, KREISKY WENT SO FAR AS TO SAY HE DOUBTED INTERNATIONAL EFFORT TO COMBAT TERRORISM WOULD SUCCEED UNTIL UNDERLYING CAUSES OF TERRORISM ARE REMOVED. ON OTHER HAND, CURRENT AUSTRIAN INTERESTS- FILLING VIENNA'S UNO CITY, COURTING OPEC, EXPANDING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS WITH THIRD-WORLD RICH, AND POSSIBLY REELECTING UN SYG WALDHEIM-ARE LIKELY TO LIMIT GOA ACTION TO RIGHT SOUNDING STATEMENTS.

2. TO EXTENT CURRENT AUSTRIAN INTERESTS MAY BE HARMED BY TERRORIST ACTIVITIES ON AUSTRIAN TURF, GOA WILL WANT TO MINIMIZE THEIR INCIDENCE, BUT MAIN GOA EMPHASIS WILL BE UPON UNILATERAL SECURITY MEASURES AND SUCH PUBLIC STATEMENTS AND PRIVATE APPEALS AS MAY HELP CONVINCE OTHERS THAT AUSTRIA, IN THIS RESPECT AS IN MANY OTHERS, SHOULD REMAIN ISLAND OF CALM IN STORMY POLITICAL SEAS.

3. SHOULD TERRORISM PROBLEM COME TO FORE IN UN, WE WOULD THEREFORE EXPECT GOA TO TALK A GOOD FIGHT BUT NOT REALLY GO TO THE MAT. ONLY SOLID FRONT OF WESTERN COUNTRIES, RATHER FIRMLY BACKED BY SUBSTANTIAL THIRD WORLD CONTINGENT, WOULD SUSTAIN GOA RESOLVE. BUCHANAN

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